

# 2003 ANNUAL REPORT



## Roanoke Fire-EMS

A Nationally Accredited Agency





# Roanoke Fire-EMS Mission Statement

This department exists to protect and preserve the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke from damage or loss due to fire, medical emergencies, environmental hazards, and traumatic accidents.



## Message from the Chief

Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "the greatest prize life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." Public service, in my opinion, is an honorable life's work. The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department exists to protect and preserve the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke from damage or loss due to fire, medical emergencies, environmental hazards, and traumatic accidents. The growing demands of an increasingly complex and changing world however, have also made men and women in the fire service problem solvers, educators, role models, coaches, mentors, fundraisers, organizers...and much more.

In 2003, the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department was honored to receive both a state and community award. The Governor's Virginia Fire Services Award for Excellence in Fire Service Management honors dedication and commitment to Virginia's fire service community. A group of elementary school students were asked to decide who demonstrates "care" in their community. These students awarded the community award, *Teaching Kids to Care*, to the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department. These awards, though very different, are equally important—both show a dedication to the fire service as well as the community.

The past year brought many noteworthy accomplishments within the department and our service to the community including the lowest number of working fires in department history, an expanded public education program, and continued growth in the number of business inspections performed by the Fire Prevention Division.

The residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke are provided with the highest quality of service possible due to the truly exceptional work, cooperation, and accomplishments of their public safety personnel. As Chief of the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department, I am proud to present the Roanoke Fire-EMS 2003 Annual Report.

In the Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Grigsby".

James Grigsby  
Fire-EMS Chief



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**Ralph Smith**  
Mayor

**Darlene Burcham**  
City Manager

**George "Chip" Snead**  
Assistant City Manager  
Operations

**James Grigsby**  
Fire-EMS Chief

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## 2003 AT A GLANCE

- Roanoke Fire-EMS received Governor's 2003 Virginia Fire Services Award for Excellence in Fire Service Management
- Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Recruit School's #4 and #5 held for City of Roanoke, County of Roanoke and City of Salem
- Roanoke Fire-EMS awarded *Teaching Kids to Care* community award by elementary school children
- Held second Roanoke Fire-EMS Citizen Academy
- Acquired new Engine #10 at \$430,000
- Fire-EMS Station #1 received exterior restoration of the bell tower and front facade

### 2003 Department Budget

The total operating budget for Roanoke Fire-EMS in 2003 was \$16,196,780.

Operations.....	\$14,095,854
Administration.....	\$ 695,653
Support.....	\$ 670,239
Airport.....	\$ 735,034



## Vision

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department will...

- work to prevent emergencies from occurring through fire code enforcement, investigation, and public education.
- strive to be the recognized leader in fire-EMS in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States.
- be the department of choice for our employees to work and achieve professional development.
- develop innovative training techniques and a research and development program for all aspects of emergency service delivery.
- be recognized as a resource of chief officers for other departments through superior officer training and development.
- value constructive change as positive.

## Leadership Philosophy

We are a team of dedicated, hard-working individuals who want to do a professional job. We trust, train, empower, and hold each other accountable to accomplish our mission.





## Core Values

The employees of this department are our most valuable resource. Only through them will our mission be accomplished.

The residents and visitors of Roanoke are our customers. We will constantly strive to provide them with the highest quality of service possible. We will consider every contact with them an opportunity to demonstrate our mission and values.

Employee and customer safety will affect our approach to the services we provide.

A philosophy of participative management involves employees in issues that affect them, encouraging open dialogue, teamwork, trust, and the sharing of ideas among employees and management.

We will maintain department integrity and longevity through fiscally sound and proactive planning and budgeting.

Through research and development, visioning and creativity, we will constantly strive for better ways to fulfill our mission in service to our customers.

We will promote the attributes of leadership, service, pride, and respect in a secure, diverse workplace.



## ROANOKE FIRE-EMS RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FIRE SERVICE MANAGEMENT

On Friday, February 27, 2004, Roanoke Fire-EMS received the Governor's 2003 Virginia Fire Services Award for Excellence in Fire Service Management. On behalf of Governor Mark Warner, the Governor's Virginia Fire Services Awards honor dedication and commitment to Virginia's fire service community.

The award featured the department in many strategic areas including, but not limited to: achieving national accredited agency status and improved ISO rating, regional cooperation initiatives, and the adoption of the department's seven year Strategic Business Plan. Also included was improvements to equipment and training methodologies, department training, regional cooperation, and the department being the recipient of the highest citizen satisfaction rating for any city department for the past three years.



The accomplishments made by the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department made the department an exceptional candidate for the Governor's Award for Excellence in Virginia Fire Service Management. The department continuously demonstrates its dedication to sound management principles and excellence in fire service leadership not only in the City of Roanoke, but for the greater good of other departments within the Roanoke Valley and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Awards were presented in five categories: Excellence in Virginia Fire Services, Excellence in Virginia Public Fire & Life Safety Education, Excellence in Virginia Fire Service Management, Excellence in Virginia Fire Service Training, and Excellence in Private Sector Virginia Fire Services Support. Roanoke Fire-EMS Chief Jim Grigsby accepted the award on behalf of the department during the 2004 Virginia Fire Chief's Association's Mid-Atlantic Expo & Symposium.



## 2003 GRANT OVERVIEW



<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Grant Source</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>	<u>Local Match Requirement</u>	<u>Services Funded</u>
Office of Domestic Preparedness State Homeland Security Grant	Virginia Department of Emergency Management	\$132,500	NONE	Hazardous Materials, Rescue/Extrication equipment
Fire Programs Fund Aid to Localities	Virginia Department of Fire Programs	\$127,202	NONE	Regional Training Center debt service, fire service equipment (i.e., turnout gear, boots, helmets, hose, etc.) and training
Rescue Squad Assistance Grant Program	Virginia Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	\$42,000	\$42,000	Seven Zoll M-Series Defibrillators
Hazardous Materials Grant Program	Virginia Department of Emergency Management	\$15,000	NONE	Expendable equipment and training for Regional Hazardous Materials Team
Gift of Life	Safe Kids Coalition/United States Fire Administration	\$10,000	NONE	Cooperative program with Carilion to furnish safe products and education materials to new-
FM Global Arson Fund	Factory Mutual Insurance Company	\$ 2,900	NONE	Cause and Origin Investigation Equipment
Risk Watch Expansion Grant	Virginia Department of Health, Center for Injury and Violence Prevention	\$1,800	NONE	Expansion of public education program into Pre-K (22 classrooms), bringing the total number of classrooms to 39
Gift of Life	Wal Mart	\$500	NONE	Cooperative program with Carilion to furnish safe products and education materials to newborn and their parents



## PUBLIC EDUCATION

### ***Risk Watch* Program Continues in Elementary Schools**

In 2001, Roanoke Fire-EMS implemented an injury prevention program, *Risk Watch*, in four elementary schools (17 classrooms) in the City of Roanoke. In its second year, the program was expanded to reach all pre-school classes in the City of Roanoke.

*Risk Watch* gives children and their families the skills and knowledge they need to create safer homes and communities, and is a school-based curriculum that links teachers with community safety experts.

Roanoke Fire-EMS continues to be able to provide all materials for the *Risk Watch* program to the participating schools, thanks to annual grants received by the Virginia Department of Health, Center for Injury and Violence Prevention.



### **HEROES Program**

For the third consecutive year, Roanoke Fire-EMS has partnered with Roanoke City Schools to bring the HEROES (Help Encourage Roanoke's Outstanding Education Students) program to local classrooms. Firefighters from eight fire stations are "adopted" one day per week. These firefighters eat lunch with the students and share stories, experiences and positive messages.

The following stations and schools are partnered for the 2003/2004 school year:

- Fairview Elementary—Station #9
- Highland Park Elementary—Station #3
- Lincoln Terrace Elementary—Station #2
- Jackson Middle School—Station #6
- Morningside Elementary—Station #11
- Oakland Elementary—Station #10
- Virginia Heights Elementary—Station #7
- Westside Elementary—Station #13



## FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES 2003

Smoke Detectors distributed	235
Chimney/Home Inspections Completed	191
Inspections Completed	9,867
Re-Inspections Completed	2,641
Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations	27
Number of Inspectors	18
Inspections per Hour	1.83
Re-inspections per Hour	2.46
Permits Issued to Store and/or Use Explosives	10
Permits Issued for Bonfires	1
Permits Issued for Use of Fireworks	6
Permits Issued for Open Burning	2
Building Plans Reviewed by Fire Protection Engineer	149
Acceptance Tests Performed	153
Fires Investigated by Department	130
Fires Investigated—Cause determined to be incendiary in nature	66
Fires Investigated—Cause determined to be other in nature	64

\* The Fire Prevention Division exceeds code requirements for schools, nursing homes, day care centers, and hospitals by inspecting each two or three times per year.

Roanoke Fire-EMS encourages all Roanoke residents to practice fire safety steps every day. Remember, fire safety is your personal responsibility and fire prevention precautions DO make a difference! The Fire Prevention Division of the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department offers fireplace safety and/or home fire safety inspections **at no cost**. Citizens can call 853-2795 to set up an appointment.

Citizens in need can also receive a smoke detector and/or replacement battery **at no cost** from Roanoke Fire-EMS Administration, 541 Luck Avenue, Suite 120, Roanoke, VA 24016.



## 2003 SUMMARY

Land Area: 43 square miles

Population: 94,911

Stations: 13



## PERSONNEL

Uniformed: 265

Civilian: 6

Total: 271

## Significant Incidents

### January 2

Second alarm fire on Cleveland Avenue, causes \$100,000 in damage

### March 10

Second alarm fire on Mountain Avenue, sends citizen to UVA Burn Center

### July 6

Second alarm fire on 27th Street, causes \$380,000 in damage

### July 6

Structure fire on King Street, results in death of one citizen

Fire Related Deaths 1

Fire Related Injuries 16

Total Fire Loss \$7,757,551

Incident Type	Total 2002	Total 2003
Bomb Threat	22	14
Medi-Vac Assist	1	3
Fire Alarm Activation	1,403	1,411
Life Threaten—EMS	10,718	11,249
Critical Life Threaten—EMS	1,053	1,246
Biological Hazard	1	1
Non-Life Threat—EMS	1,895	2,111
Brush/Grass Fire	173	105
Car/Vehicle Fire	212	227
CO alarm—with patients	15	11
CO alarm—without patients	31	26
Aircraft Emergencies	36	42
Building Collapse	2	7
Elevator Rescue	59	53
Structure Fires—Report 911	776	859
Working Fires	97	95
Vehicle Accident—Serious	684	592
Vehicle Accident—Minor Injury	890	1,021
Vehicle Accident—Property	9	5
Public Service—Fire	292	414
Standby—Fire	11	5
HazMat Incident	17	13
Gas/Product Leak	33	33
Move to Cover	51	71
Public Service—EMS	303	220
Standby—EMS	112	78
Mulch Fire	12	9
Odor—Unknown	91	80
Subject Down	575	642
Quick Dash—CFR Test	4	6
Spill—Hazardous Prod.	61	50
Train Incident	0	0
Trash/Dumpster Fire	70	50
Tactical Rescue Response	0	2
Wires Down—Hazard	247	397
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>19,956</b>	<b>21,139</b>



# Apparatus Response

## Engine Companies

Engine	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6	E7	E8	E9	E10	E11	E13	E14	COWG7 COEN7	Total
Total Calls	1387	1707	819	1902	1313	947	957	1177	1354	865	1140	886	174	14628
Day/ Average	2.33	4.55	2.13	5.08	3.48	2.53	2.56	3.13	3.71	2.37	3.124	2.428	0.472	2.91

## Ladder Companies

Ladder	L1	L2	L7	L13	Total
Total Calls	1297	1046	733	811	3887
Day/Average	3.554	2.566	2.009	2.222	2.59

## Medical Units

Medical Unit	MU1	MU2	MU3	MU4	MU6	MU9	MU10	MU101	RU101	RKE CO	Total
Total Calls	3293	2938	3185	2127	3020	2749	2747	502	19	330	20910
Day/ Average	9.022	8.05	8.726	5.828	8.274	7.532	7.526	1.376	0.005	0.905	5.72

## Battalion Chiefs, EMS Officers

Officer	BC1	BC2	RS1	Total
Total Calls	1076	1121	2420	4617
Day/Average	2.95	3.072	6.631	4.22

## Airport Rescue/Firefighting (ARFF)

Airport Rescue Unit	AR1	AR2	AR3	AR4	Total
Total Calls	17	44	51	3	115
Day/Average	0.0466	0.1205	0.1397	0.0082	.079











## ROANOKE FIRE-EMS PERSONNEL

J. B. Adkins Firefighter/EMT	T. W. Adkins Captain	B. S. Alford Lieutenant	R. E. Alley Lieutenant	W. O. Altman Battalion Chief
J. M. Armstrong Captain	C. J. Arrington Firefighter/EMT	J. C. Arrington. II Lieutenant	G. R. Asbury Lieutenant	K. F. Ash Firefighter/PM
K. S. Atkins Support Assistant	J. L. Austin Firefighter/PM	A. P. Austin Captain	M. A. Bailey Firefighter/EMT	B. L. Baker EMS Training Specialist
M. W. Banks Captain	D. P. Barker Captain	L. R. Bartley Firefighter/EMT I	J. W. Beckner Battalion Chief	T. A. Bedwell Lieutenant
R. M. Bedwell Firefighter/EMT	J. K. Bell Lieutenant	E. L. Bender Lieutenant	J. K. Bennington Firefighter/EMT	S. B. Berry Lieutenant
R. L. Biggs Firefighter/EMT	D. A. Bishop Captain	J. K. Blankenship Firefighter/PM	T. L. Blevins Firefighter/EMT	D. A. Bocock Lieutenant
R. C. Bolton Firefighter/EMT I	S. B. Boone Firefighter/EMT I	S. V. Boothe Lieutenant	C. D. Boyd Firefighter/EMT	K. L. Bradbury Firefighter/EMT
S. E. Bradford Firefighter/EMT	J. B. Brads Firefighter/EMT	K. J. Branch Lieutenant	S. W. Branscome Fire Protection Engineer	J. G. Brantley Firefighter/EMT
T. W. Brown Firefighter/EMT	C. W. Brown 1st Lieutenant	M. D. Brown Lieutenant	J. E. Burrows Firefighter/EMT	B. T. Butler Firefighter/EMT
T. G. Cady Firefighter/EMT	J. L. Cady, Jr 1st Lieutenant	R. W. Campbell Lieutenant	K. M. Campbell Firefighter/EMT	R. E. Carter Lieutenant
C. A. Champney Firefighter/PM	P. T. Chitwood Firefighter/EMT	T. W. Collins Firefighter/EMT 1	B. P. Conner Firefighter/EMT	G. W. Conner Captain
C. C. Coulter Firefighter/PM	M. A. Craft Lieutenant	L. B. Creasy Firefighter/EMT	D. L. Croft 1st Lieutenant	J. L. Crouch Firefighter/PM
M. W. Crowder Captain	C. T. Decker Firefighter/EMT	M. D. Dewhirst Lieutenant	P. A. Dillon Lieutenant	J. W. Dixon Firefighter/PM
J. H. Dubose Lieutenant	J. D. Dudley Firefighter/EMT	G. S. Duncan Firefighter/EMT	D. G. Duncan Firefighter/PM	R. L. Early 1st Lieutenant
S. M. East Firefighter/EMT	K. F. Edwards Firefighter/EMT	L. Edwards, Jr Lieutenant	K. L. Entsminger Lieutenant	J. T. Evans Firefighter/EMT
J. S. Faulkner Information Accreditation Coordinator	B. L. Ferguson Lieutenant	C. W. Ferguson Firefighter/EMT	A. M. Ferris Battalion Chief	B. E. Fichtner Firefighter/PM
E. E. Fielder Captain	J. A. Firebaugh Captain	G. L. Fisher Firefighter/EMT	R. M. Fleitz Firefighter/EMT	A. L. Fleming Firefighter/EMT
R. T. Flora 1st Lieutenant	L. R. Flora Lieutenant	C. E. Fochtman Captain	A. L. Foley Firefighter/EMT	N. P. Foutz Firefighter/EMT
C. T. Fowler Lieutenant	C. J. Franklin Firefighter/EMT	J. P. Fuhrman Firefighter/EMT	G. M. Fulton Firefighter/EMT	K. L. Furrow Captain
H. D. Gabelmann Firefighter/EMT I	N. C. Gardner Firefighter/PM	B. L. Gautier Firefighter/EMT	T. G. Gherman Firefighter/EMT	C. B. Gibson Lieutenant
J. F. Gish Firefighter/EMT	D. S. Goodwin Firefighter/EMT	G. S. Graham Firefighter/EMT	J. Grigsby Chief	J. G. Guilliama Captain
R. L. Guilliama Lieutenant	G. W. Hall Captain	G. Harris Firefighter/EMT	T. S. Harris Firefighter/PM	M. T. Harris Firefighter/EMT
T. M. Hauck Firefighter/EMT	D. H. Hayes Firefighter/PM	D. T. Heck Captain	S. P. Hetherington Firefighter/EMT	J. C. Hines Firefighter/EMT
H. D. Hoback Deputy Chief	J. G. Hodgin, Jr Firefighter/EMS	J. M. Holmes Firefighter/PM	M. N. Huddleston Captain	B. H. Hudson Firefighter/EMT I
D. P. Hughes Firefighter/EMT	W. E. Humbert Firefighter/EMT	R. L. Humphreys Firefighter/EMT	P. K. Hundley Lieutenant	P. M. Hunt Firefighter/EMT
D. L. Hurd Lieutenant	K. A. Hurt Firefighter/EMT	J. B. Hylton Lieutenant	M. I. Ingvaldsen Captain	M. S. Jenkins Firefighter/EMT
P. W. Jessee Firefighter/EMT	P. W. Johnson Lieutenant	C. B. Johnston Firefighter/EMT	L. M. Jones Firefighter/EMT	R. A. Jordan Lieutenant

# ROANOKE FIRE-EMS PERSONNEL



T. A. Jordan Lieutenant	S. W. Jordan Lieutenant	R. W. Joyner Firefighter/PM	P. T. Kandis Captain	M. D. Kesterson 1st Lieutenant
B. A. Kincer Firefighter/EMT I	T. L. King Captain	S. F. Lambruscati Lieutenant	G. L. Laprad Captain	X. N. Lee Firefighter/EMT
R. S. Lee Captain	F. G. Leonard Firefighter/EMT	J. N. Lester Captain	D. M. Lucas Firefighter/EMT	B. J. Lussen Captain
E. R. Manuel Battalion Chief	R. L. Markham Firefighter/EMT	C. E. Martin Captain	G. A. McCoy Firefighter/EMT	S. D. McFaden Firefighter/EMT
C. T. McFall Firefighter/EMT	K. H. McIlhany 1st Lieutenant	T. J. McSherry Captain	T. L. Meador Firefighter/EMT	T. L. Meeks Firefighter/PM
F. K. Miller Firefighter/EMT	C. E. Mills Firefighter/EMT	M. W. Milton Firefighter/EMT	A. G. Mitchell Firefighter/EMT	J. Mone Firefighter/EMT
M. A. Morris Captain/Fire Marshal	T. J. Mouglin Firefighter/EMT	D. A. Muse Firefighter/EMT	S. K. Mutter Captain	L. R. Neil Firefighter/EMT
M. R. Nelson Firefighter/PM	M. Nicholson Firefighter/EMT	B. T. Obaugh Firefighter/EMT	W. E. Obenchain Battalion Chief	R. L. Obenchain Lieutenant
T. C. O'Brien Firefighter/EMT	R. M. Overacker Firefighter/EMT	J. T. Overstreet Lieutenant	D. O. Palmer Firefighter/PM	D. L. Parker Lieutenant
T. D. Parry Lieutenant	C. E. Patrick Firefighter/EMT	J. R. Patterson Lieutenant	J. A. Peay Firefighter/EMT	M. A. Peay Firefighter/EMT
G. D. Perdue Lieutenant	R. D. Perdue Captain	T. W. Perkins Firefighter/EMT	R. D. Peters Captain	C. H. Pfister Firefighter/PM
M. R. Podlewski Firefighter/EMT	A. E. Poindexter Firefighter/EMT	D. B. Pope Captain	P. C. Price Firefighter/EMT	C. D. Price Lieutenant
J. F. Price, III Lieutenant	M. A. Pruitt Firefighter/EMT	J. B. Pugh Firefighter/EMT	D. J. Rakes 1st Lieutenant	T. J. Ransome Captain
R. L. Reid Firefighter/EMT	T. A. Reighley Lieutenant	J. L. Renick Captain	J. D. Reynolds, Jr Firefighter/EMT	W. B. Riddle 1st Lieutenant
C. A. Riddleberger Lieutenant	R. E. Roach Firefighter/PM	S. D. Rorrer 1st Lieutenant	M. W. Rose 1st Lieutenant	N. D. Russell Lieutenant
M. L. Sanders Battalion Chief	C. S. Schrader Firefighter/EMT	B. G. Scott Lieutenant	C. S. Sellers Captain	D. R. Sexton Firefighter/EMT
C. G. Sharp Firefighter/EMT	K. W. Shelton Firefighter/EMT	T. H. Shelton Firefighter/EMT	T. A. Simmons Lieutenant	B. L. Simmons Lieutenant
Z. S. Slayton Firefighter/EMT	B. S. Slayton Battalion Chief	R. R. Smith Firefighter/EMT	M. A. Smith Lieutenant	R. E. Smith Firefighter/EMT
O. W. Smith, Jr Lieutenant	D. W. Songer Lieutenant	D. L. Spearin Firefighter/EMT	D. L. Spradling Firefighter/EMT	C. J. Stafford Lieutenant
M. L. Stone 1st Lieutenant	S. T. Stone Captain	B. S. Stores Executive Secretary	V. D. Stover Support Administrator	S. P. Stump Lieutenant
C. E. Swecker, Jr 1st Lieutenant	J. T. Sweeney Captain	R. E. Tartaglia Assistant Chief	L. R. Taylor Firefighter/EMT	K. R. Thompson Firefighter/EMT
J. D. Thompson Firefighter/EMT	L. W. Thompson Lieutenant	M. A. Thompson Administrative Secretary	R. L. Troutt Battalion Chief	C. L. Trussler Captain
D. D. Turner Firefighter/EMT	C. Turpin, IV Lieutenant	B. J. Underwood Firefighter/EMT	P. Uzelac Firefighter/EMT	W. F. Vandamme Captain
N. M. Wade Lieutenant	K. B. Walker Firefighter/EMT	A. P. Wallace Captain	G. W. Warren Captain	L. E. Watts Captain
S. H. Weaver Firefighter/PM	F. W. Webb Lieutenant	K. R. Weeks 1st Lieutenant	W. K. West, III Lieutenant	M. P. Wheeling Firefighter/EMT
K. E. Whitlow Lieutenant	J. E. Willdigg Firefighter/EMT	C. E. Williams Firefighter/EMT	W. W. Wines, Jr Captain	D. A. Wray Firefighter/EMT
B. H. Wray Firefighter/EMT	C. H. Yearout Captain			





## Teaching Kids to Care

During the past several years, Doubletree Hotels has sponsored a program with the nation's children about caring for their community and showing their civic pride. This program, *Teaching Kids to Care*, brings a class of school-children together to decide who in their community demonstrates "care". The group selected is honored by receiving the same number of cookies as the year given (example, in 2003, 2,003 cookies were donated).



In 2003, Doubletree Hotels, in cooperation with Hotel Roanoke, worked with a third-grade class at Lincoln Terrace Elementary School. The students selected the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department as the recipient of the community award. On November 24, 2003, the students presented 2,003 cookies to firefighters at Fire-EMS Station #2 before representatives from the City of Roanoke, Hotel Roanoke and the media. Congratulations to the personnel from Roanoke Fire-EMS!







## Roanoke Fire-EMS ARFF *Airport Rescue Firefighting*

In the mid 1900's, the increase in Roanoke's air travel dictated a need for specialized equipment and specially trained personnel to respond to the unique hazards associated with aircraft emergencies. The Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (A.R.F.F.) division began as a secondary responsibility of the Roanoke Fire Department. Until the 1970's, firefighters



responded to airport emergencies from Station #2, with an average response time of approximately 10-15 minutes. A Federal Aviation Administration regulation was enacted that required on-site personnel. This prompted the construction of the current Station #10, which would house both A.R.F.F and structural companies with direct access to the airfield. Currently, a typical response to any point on the airfield is less than two minutes.

A.R.F.F. firefighters must attend a 40-hour specialized airport firefighter course in addition to completing the basic firefighter training requirements. Annually, they must also participate in a live fire exercise. In order to help them endure the tremendous heat generated by aviation fuel, their gear is covered with aluminum. The trucks are designed to deliver large amounts of foam to provide a safe exit for passengers, in the event of an aircraft accident. They can also suppress large liquid fuel fires in order to keep the fuselage intact while other crews enter to perform rescue. Each truck carries 1500 gallons of water and 200 gallons of foam.

With it's highly trained personnel dedicated to excellent service, A.R.F.F. continues to be one of the premier aspects of the Roanoke Fire-EMS department.





## New Equipment Arrives for Firefighters

In June 2003, Roanoke Fire-EMS began receiving the first pieces of equipment purchased through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. In 2002, the department was awarded a total package of \$624,840 to purchase Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) kits and to replace old and obsolete air packs with 151 new pieces of equipment.



Acquisition of the new equipment ensures that our department is fully-equipped and prepared to face the most dangerous fire situations, while protecting the safety of our firefighters who, in turn, protect the safety of our community.

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## Purchase of New Engine 10

New Engine 10 was placed into service in February 2003. The new apparatus serves the airport, surrounding commercial area, Valley View Mall, Williamson Road and the Northeast residential areas of the city. This new piece of equipment is a telesquirt, and has enhanced capabilities over a standard fire pumper. The enhancement is an aerial waterway capable of flowing 1500 gallons of water per minute. This engine was purchased for \$430,000 and is located at Fire-EMS Station #10, 5202 Aviation Drive.



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## Department Retains Accreditation Agency Status



As part of the requirements to retain accredited agency status, Roanoke Fire-EMS was required to submit an Annual Compliance Report to the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, Inc. (CFAI), in June 2003. The purpose of this report was to keep the Commission informed of any significant changes or developments in activities, direction, or programming within the department. The report is also used to monitor the department's status as it relates to standards, procedures and practices, as well as the progress made toward completing all strategic and specific recommendations made by the accreditation team. This report will be submitted on an annual basis until time for the re-accreditation process in 2007.

The department first received Accredited Agency status in August 2002, after preparing for the evaluation for more than two years. Roanoke Fire-EMS is one of 89 fire departments out of more than 30,000 in the country that have achieved Accredited Agency status with the CFAI, including three others from Virginia.

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### 2nd Fire-EMS Citizen Academy

The 2nd Roanoke Fire-EMS Citizens Academy was held from November 7—9, 2003. Six people attended the academy and had an opportunity to learn more about life as a firefighter/EMT. Participants tried on gear; from jackets and pants to air packs and masks, crawled through a confined space, climbed ladders, and experienced a search and rescue scenario in a dark, smoke-filled environment. They also learned how to connect to a fire hydrant, spray water with hoses, and



participated in various emergency medical simulations. The three-day training was an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about the department and its mission.



## Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Training Academy hold 4th and 5th Regional Recruit Schools



During 2003, the Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Training Academy held the 4th and 5th Roanoke Valley Regional Recruit Schools. Twenty-eight individuals representing the City of Roanoke, as well as individuals representing the County of Roanoke and City of Salem

spent 17 weeks receiving instruction and practical training in areas such as basic firefighter skills, emergency vehicle driving skills, hazardous materials, emergency medical techniques, and rope rescue.

Challenged mentally, physically and psychologically, the recruits receive the necessary training for their career with the fire and EMS service in the Roanoke Valley. Bringing the fire and EMS Departments together



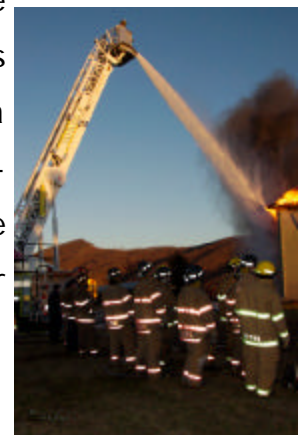
to learn, train, and grow provides consistency among all firefighter/EMS personnel; whether stationed in Roanoke, Roanoke County or Salem; minimizing costs to each jurisdiction through sharing instructors and equipment, and the opportunity for the "recruits" to develop a relationship.

The training is completed at the Roanoke Valley Regional Training Center located on Kessler Mill Road. The Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Training



Center is a partnership between the Roanoke, Roanoke County, Salem, and the Town of Vinton, and is a continuing effort to enhance fire and EMS safety operations, and to improve the delivery of these critical services through better training. It creates a

system that allows for each area to have access to a state-of-the-art facility, as well as the sharing of resources to include specialized instructors and equipment, resulting in greater productivity region-wide.







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## Fire-EMS Station #1 Receives Restoration

Roanoke's oldest fire station received an exterior restoration of the belltower and front facade. At nearly 100 years old, this city landmark was beginning to show its age. The facade was in poor shape, with the bricks and original limestone mortar deteriorating.

This historic building was constructed and opened in 1906. Horses were used to pull steam-powered fire wagons until 1918, when the first firetruck was purchased.

A program marking the completion of the exterior renovation was held on December 19, 2003. This historic building serves as a constant reminder of the ongoing dedication and traditions of the city's Fire-EMS Department.



Fire-EMS Station #1  
13 East Church Avenue, SE

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## EMS Training Specialist Hired

In 2003, Roanoke Fire-EMS hired Bobby Baker as the department's first civilian EMS Training Specialist. As EMS Training Specialist, Baker is responsible for coordinating the department's EMS training, facility site accreditation and quality assurance, working on regional educational planning, developing agreements/contracts for services, and monitoring EMS certification requirements and status of all fire-EMS personnel.

A fifteen-year veteran of emergency services, Baker has worked in various health care institutions, colleges, and emergency service companies gaining experience at all levels of hospital and pre-hospital care and education. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Emergency Health Services, Master's degree in Health Services Administration, and is currently certified as a Nationally Registered and Virginia Paramedic.





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## Fire-EMS Chief Completes International Professional Designation Process

Chief James Grigsby successfully completed the process that awarded him the professional designation of "Chief Fire Officer". The Commission on Chief Fire Officer Designation (CFOD) met on February 22, 2003 to officially confer the designation upon Chief Grigsby. Chief Grigsby is one of only 214 designated Chief Fire Officers.

The Chief Fire Officer Program is a voluntary program designed to recognize individuals who demonstrate their excellence in seven measured components including:



Experience, Education, Professional Development, Professional Contribution, Association Membership, Community Involvement, and Technical Competencies. A Board of Review consisting of members of the fire and emergency services profession, academia, and municipal agencies reviews each application and recommends successful candidates for designation to the Commission.

Another noteworthy accomplishment is the successful completion of the Executive Officer Program (EFOP) by Deputy Chief David Hoback. The EFOP is a leadership course designed to provide senior officers with enhanced executive-level knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead department transformations, conduct research, and engage in lifelong learning.

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## New Program Offered to Citizens

Roanoke Fire-EMS purchased six portable water pumps to assist citizens with flooded basements. The pumps are located strategically at various fire-EMS stations throughout the city. When called, Fire-EMS personnel evaluate the need and decide if pumping a basement will help, or is possible. If necessary, personnel will either leave an individual on the scene or train the occupant on the use of the pump and leave it with them. This is an additional service to the citizens and does not take priority over emergency calls. This program is on a first-come basis and is targeted for private homes.



## New Employees 2003

Christopher Arrington	Bobby Baker	James Brantley
Christopher Coulter	Stephen East	Gary Fisher
Andy Foley	Jarod Fuhrman	Brandon Gautier
Daniel Goodwin	Michael Jenkins	Patrick Jessee
Charles Johnston	Xavier Lee	Frank Leonard
David Lucas	Travis Meador	Alan Mitchell
James Mone	Davel Muse	Ben Obaugh
Charles Schrader	Zachary Slayton	Rebecca Smith
Daniel Spradling	Karim Thompson	Devin Turner
	Matthew Wheeling	

## Promotions 2003

### Battalion Chief

Billy Altman

### Captain

Eddie Fielder                      Clayton Martin

### 1st Lieutenant

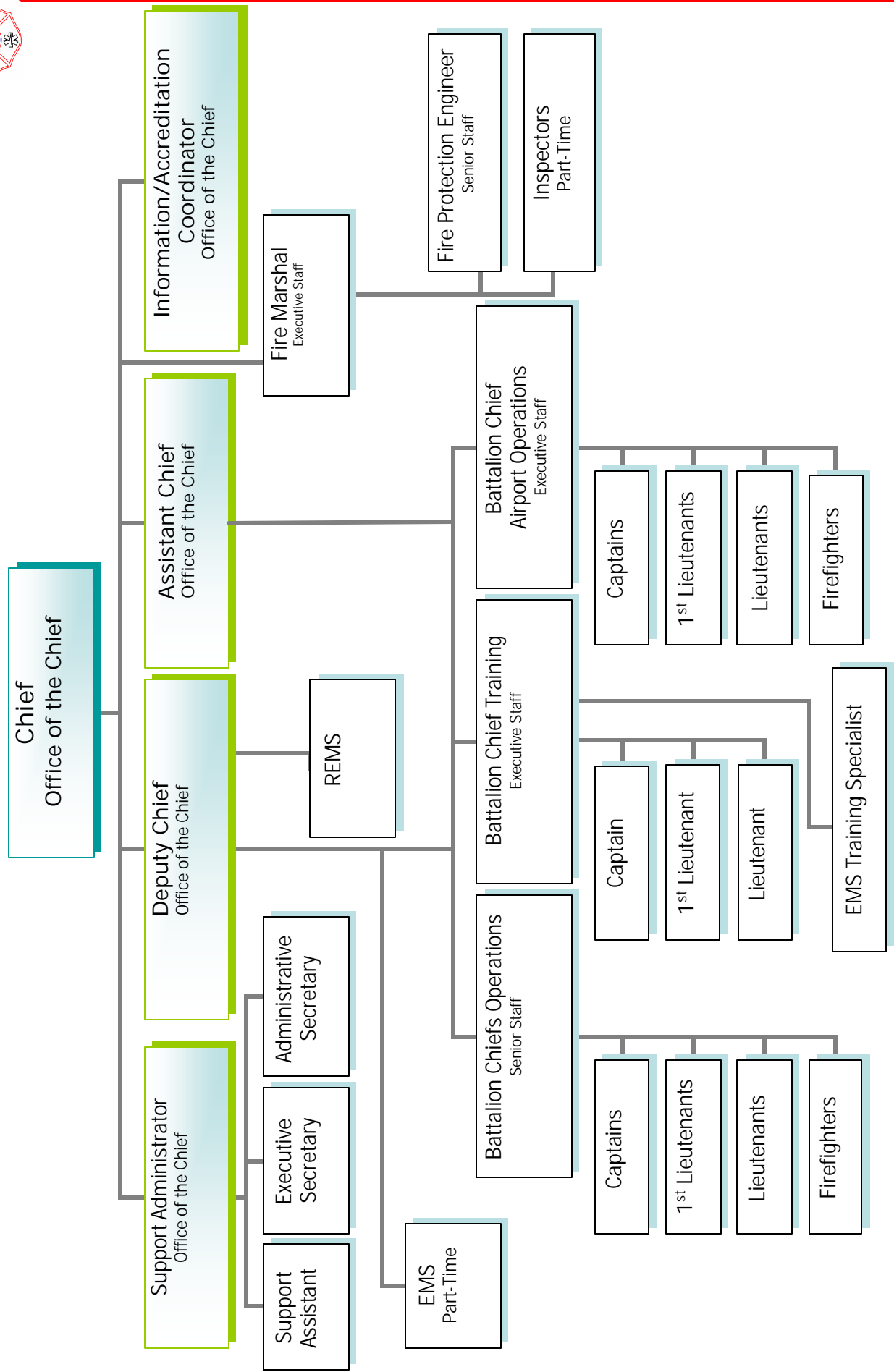
Daniel Rakes                      Doug Rorrer

### Lieutenant

Tracy Blevins	David Bocock	Mac Craft
Rodney Jordan	Travis Simmons	Keith Whitlow

## Retirements 2003

Gary Clark	Marvin Coleman	Donald Dixon
William Entsminger	Billy Gayle	John Hale
Jimmy Jennings	Johnny Johnson	Carl Jones
Michael Laprad	John Manspile	Sammie Mutter
Larry Nichols	Winston Simmons	Toby Webb
Charles Williams	William Wines, Sr.	





**Fire-EMS Administration**  
541 Luck Avenue, Suite 120  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
fire-ems@ci.roanoke.va.us



**Fire-EMS Station #1**  
13 East Church Avenue, SE  
Roanoke, VA 24011  
fire-ems\_1@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1906



**Fire-EMS Station #2**  
55 Noble Avenue, NE  
Roanoke, VA 24012  
fire-ems\_2@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1950



**Fire-EMS Station #3**  
301 Sixth Street, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
fire-ems\_3@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1909



**Fire-EMS Station #4**  
3763 Peters Creek Road, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
fire-ems\_4@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1999



**Fire-EMS Station #5**  
216 Twelfth Street, NW  
Roanoke, VA 24017  
fire-ems\_5@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1911



**Fire-EMS Station #6**  
1333 Jamison Avenue, SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
fire-ems\_6@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1979



**Fire-EMS Station #7**  
1742 Memorial Avenue, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24015  
fire-ems\_7@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1922



**Fire-EMS Station #8**  
2328 Crystal Springs Avenue, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24014  
fire-ems\_8@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1928



**Fire-EMS Station #9**  
514 24th Street, NW  
Roanoke, VA 24017  
fire-ems\_9@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1928



**Fire-EMS Station #10**  
5202 Aviation Drive, NW  
Roanoke, VA 24012  
fire-ems\_10@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1975



**Fire-EMS Station #11**  
1502 Riverland Road, SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
fire-ems\_11@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1964



**Fire-EMS Station #13**  
4330 Appleton Avenue, NW  
Roanoke, VA 24017  
fire-ems\_13@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1978



**Fire-EMS Station #14**  
161 Mecca Street, NE  
Roanoke, VA 24012  
fire-ems\_14@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 1994

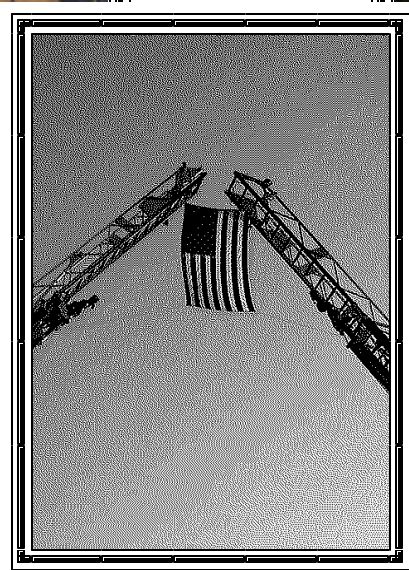


**Roanoke Valley Regional  
Fire-EMS Training Center**  
1220 Kessler Mill Road  
Salem, VA 24153  
fire-ems@ci.roanoke.va.us  
Built in 2000



**Roanoke Emergency  
Medical Services (REMS)**  
374 Day Avenue, SW  
Salem, VA 24016  
info@roanokeems.org  
Built in 1955





**Roanoke Fire-EMS**  
**541 Luck Avenue, Suite 120**  
**Roanoke, VA 24016**  
**Phone: 540-853-2327**  
**Fax: 540-853-1172**  
**Email: [fire-ems@ci.roanoke.va.us](mailto:fire-ems@ci.roanoke.va.us)**  
**Web address: [roanokegov.com/fire-ems](http://roanokegov.com/fire-ems)**